

simple knitted cloths



Learning how to knit a simple cloth is the perfect way to reduce your household waste while developing a new skill. Reusable cloths made from natural fibres are a great way to eliminate kitchen sponges, paper towels, makeup wipes, cotton facial rounds, and baby wipes.

This pattern is easily adaptable for different sizes, fibres, and gauges to suit your needs.



notes

This pattern is written with the beginner in mind, with freedom to make mistakes while learning basic knitting skills. It's okay if it looks a little wonky!

Each knitting skill and stitch used in this pattern are supported with links to video tutorials. YouTube is a great resource for knitters of all levels to refresh their memories or try new things!

This pattern is also intended to be flexible in terms of budget and available materials. Keep an eye out at thrift stores for needles and yarns made from natural fibres. I have had excellent luck finding cotton yarn in the craft section of my local secondhand shop.

Finally, the pattern is written for you to decide what size of cloth you would like. The finished cloths are square and knitted on the diagonal - once you reach the desired width, simply begin decreasing.



Simple and sustainable swaps are a great place to start, but learning a new skill is even better. Once you get the hang of it, be sure to share your reusable cloths with family and friends!

Let the simple things empower you to do the hard things, like talking to your family and friends, contacting your reps, and taking climate action in your local community.

I would love to see the cloths you make! Share them on social media and tag me [@sarah.robertson.barnes](https://www.instagram.com/sarah.robertson.barnes)

materials

YARN - FIBRE & WEIGHT

Depending on which fibre and size you choose, this simple pattern can become a dish cloth, a scrubby, or a face cloth. Be sure to choose a natural fibre that is compostable at end of life.

Some general suggestions on choosing a fibre:

- Dishes and general cleaning – cotton, hemp, linen
- Scrubbing – jute, hemp, sisal twine
- Facial and other personal care – cotton, bamboo



NEEDLES

Choose your needle size according your [yarn weight](#). Note that a larger needle creates a more open fabric.

- US 3-5 for fingering or light weight yarns
- US 7-9 for worsted weight yarns

NOTIONS

- Tapestry needle
- Scissors

abbreviations and tutorials

CO – [cast on](#)

K – [knit](#)

KFB – [knit front and back](#) (increase)

K2tog – [knit two stitches together](#) (decrease)

BO – [bind off](#)

pattern instructions

CAST ON

CO 3

BODY

Row 1: K across

Row 2: K2, KFB

Row 3: K2, KFB, K to end

Repeat Row 3 until the cloth is the width you want.

Begin decreases.

K2, K2tog, K to end

Continue until last 3 stitches and BO

FINISHING

Cut yarn leaving a 4-6" tail. Weave in ends with a tapestry needle.

